UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/517,182	12/07/2004	Hajime Maekawa	MAT-8637US	4367

23122   7590   12/08/2008

RATNERPRESTIA
P.O. BOX 980
VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482

EXAMINER
GORTAYO, DANGELINO N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2168	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/08/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 September 2008*.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *12-24* is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) *12-24* is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *5/30/08 9/16/08 11/26/08*.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1.   In the amendment filed on 3/7/2008, claims 19-24 have been amended. The

currently pending claims considered below are Claims 12-24.

Information Disclosure Statement

2.   Initialed and dated copies of Applicant's IDS form 1449, filed 5/30/2008,

9/16/2008 and 11/26/2008, are attached to the instant Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4.   Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wang

(US Patent 7,349,967 B2, cited in the IDS filed 9/16/2008)

        As per claim 12, Wang teaches "An electronic device configured to be used with

an access device and a server device having operation screen information," (see

Abstract)

"comprising: an operation screen information storage part which stores operation

screen information that is information to configure a screen for operating one of the

electronic device and another electronic device;" (column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line

57 – column 46 line 15, wherein a gateway device connected to a manufacturer server

and a remote user interface device can generate a GUI to control and operate electronic

devices in a home network)

"an operation information transmission part which transmits the operation

information at a request of the access device" (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15,

column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI generated by a gateway device is sent to an

accessing remote device to be displayed to a remote user) "the access device having a

server identifier of the server device stored in advance and requesting a locator of the

electronic device from the server device using the server identifier" (column 40 line 65 –

column 41 line 15, column 46 lines 16-35, wherein the remote device communicates

with a manufacturer server acting as a home portal to determine the address of a

gateway in a home network)

"the server device, responsive to the access device being permitted to access

the electronic device, transmitting the locator of the electronic device such that the

operation information is transmitted after the access device receives the locator of the

electronic device from the server device" (column 40 lines 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64,

column 45 lines 26-43, column 45 line 58—column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 7-14,

column 52 lines 7-46, wherein a home portal contains information on remote access

devices, including IP addresses, and communicates with a gateway device on a remote

home network controlling the devices)

"a device operation screen information reception part which accepts device

operation information;" (column 47 lines 14-44, wherein a gateway device in a home

network accepts input from a user through the GUI sent to a remote device)

"and a device drive part which operates based on the device operation

information that the device operation screen information reception part has accepted."

(column 49 line 14 – column 50 line 14, wherein a gateway device is utilized to control

and operate devices in a home network)

As per claim 13, Wang teaches "a device operation information setting part

which stores the device operation information accepted by the device operation

information reception part," (column 49 lines 14-45) "wherein the device drive part

operates based on the device operation information stored by the device operation

information setting part." (column 47 lines 22-44, column 48 lines 26-42)

As per claim 14, Wang teaches "An information processing method to be used

in an electronic device configured to be used with an access device and a server

device," (see Abstract)

"comprising: an operation information transmission step of transmitting operation

information that is information to operation of one of the electronic device, at a request;"

(column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI

generated by a gateway device is sent to an accessing remote device to be displayed to

a remote user)

"a server identification storing step of storing a server identifier of the server

device, in the access device;" (column 45 lines 44 – column 46 line 44, column 47 lines

23-44, wherein a remote access device communicates with a determined home portal to

communicate with a gateway device of the home network)

"a locator requesting step of requesting a locator of the electronic device from the

server device using the server identifier stored in the access device in advance;"

(column 45 lines 43-57, column 46 lines 16-35, column 47 lines 23-44, wherein a

remote access devices access transmits requests to a home portal via secure

communication)

"the locator requesting step including, verify that the access device is permitted

to access the electronic device," (column 52 lines 7-46, wherein a login page is utilized

by a gateway device to verify user permission)

"transmitting, by the server device the locator of the electronic device after the

access device is verified to have access to the electronic device such that the operation

information is transmitted after the access device receives the locator of the electronic

device from the server device" (column 40 lines 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64, column 45

lines 26-43, column 45 line 58—column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 7-14, wherein a

home portal contains information on remote access devices, including IP addresses,

and communicates with a gateway device on a remote home network controlling the

devices)

"a device operation information reception step of accepting device operation

information;" (column 47 lines 14-44, wherein a gateway device in a home network

accepts input from a user through the GUI sent to a remote device)

"and a device drive step of operating based on the device operation information

accepted at the device operation information reception step." (column 49 line 14 –

column 50 line 14, wherein a gateway device is utilized to control and operate devices

in a home network)

As per claim 15, Wang teaches "a device operation information setting step of

storing the device operation information accepted at the device operation information

reception step," (column 49 lines 14-45)   "wherein an operation is carried out based on

the device operation information stored at the device operation information setting step,

at the device drive step." (column 47 lines 22-44, column 48 lines 26-42)

As per claim 16, Wang teaches "the operation information storage part includes

an operation screen storage part which stores operation screen information to configure

a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device;"

(column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 15)

"the operation information transmission part includes the operation screen

information transmission part which transmits the operation screen information at the

request of the access device, the operation screen information is transmitted after the

access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device;"

(column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43)

"the device operation information reception part includes a device operation screen information reception part which accepts device operation screen information; and the device drive part operates based on the device operation information that the device operation screen information reception part has accepted." (column 40 line 65 – column 41 line 15, column 46 lines 16-35

As per claim 17, Wang teaches "the operation information transmission step includes transmitting operation screen information that is information to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device, at the request." (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43)

As per claim 18, Wang teaches "the server device stores a set of identifiers corresponding to access devices that are permitted to access the electronic device;" (column 52 lines 7-46)

"and the operation information is transmitted after the server matches an access device identifier sent by the access device to one of the stored identifiers of the set of stored identifiers." (column 52 lines 7-46)

As per claim 19, Wang teaches "the locator of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address." (column 18 line 64 – column 19 lines 67)

As per claim 20, Wang teaches "the locator of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address." (column 18 line 64 – column 19 lines 67)

As per claim 21, <u>Wang</u> teaches "An information processing system" (see Abstract)

"comprising: an electronic device;" (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, gateway device)

"an access device capable of accessing the electronic device via a connection to a communication network, the access device operable to request a locator of the electronic device from a server device using a server identifier of the server device, the access device including a server device identifier storage part operable to store the server identifier of the server device," (Figure 22 reference 1052, column 45 lines 27-57, column 46 lines 16-35, column 47 lines 65 - column 48 line 14, wherein a remote user utilizing a remote access device is identified and accesses the home network)

"wherein the electronic device includes: an operation storage part operable to store operation information including information to configure operation of the electronic device or another electronic device;" (column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 15, wherein a gateway device connected to a manufacturer server and a remote user interface device can generate a GUI to control and operate electronic devices in a home network)

"and an operation information transmission part operable to transmit the operation information at a request of the access device;" (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI generated by a gateway device is sent to an accessing remote device to be displayed to a remote user)

"wherein the locator of the electronic device is transmitted by the server device responsive to the access device being permitted to access the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted by the operation information transmission part after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device." (column 40 lines 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64, column 45 lines 26-43, column 45 line 58—column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 7-14, column 52 lines 7-46, wherein a home portal contains information on remote access devices, including IP addresses, and communicates with a gateway device on a remote home network controlling the devices)

As per claim 22, Wang teaches "the locator of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address and a port number." (column 17 line 62 - column 18 line 38, column 18 line 64 – column 19 lines 67, column 40 lines 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64)

As per claim 23, Wang teaches "the locator of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address and a port number." (column 17 line 62 - column 18 line 38, column 18 line 64 – column 19 lines 67, column 40 lines 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64)

As per claim 24, Wang teaches "the locator of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address and a port number." (column 17 line 62 - column 18 line 38, column 18 line 64 – column 19 lines 67, column 40 lines 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64)

Response to Arguments

5.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 12-18 have been considered

but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to DANGELINO N. GORTAYO whose telephone number is

(571)272-7204. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Tim T. Vo can be reached on (571)272-3642. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dangelino N Gortayo/   /Tim T. Vo/
Examiner, Art Unit 2168   Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
                                                   Unit 2168

Dangelino N. Gortayo   Tim T. Vo
Examiner   SPE